Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FBO-02 A-01 /016 W

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R 160955Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5953

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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DEPT FOR A/SY/FO

HONG KONG FOR RSS/RTC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ASEC. ABLD

SUBJECT: SECURITY PROTECTION OF PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS

REF: A. VIENTIANE 6566 B. STATE 005629

- 1. POST APPRECIATES COMMENTS OF SY/FBO IN PARA 1 OF REFTEL (B) AND WILL COMPLY WITH SUGGESTION TO UTILIZE ONE LAYER OF STEEL ON EXTERIOR SIDE OF BARRIER.
- 2. POST AND RSS, WHO REVIEWED BOTH PLANS AND REFTEL (B)
 DURING 12-14 JAN VISIT TO POST, AGREE THAT PLAN IS
 COMPLICATED AND POSSIBLY CONFUSING. IT IS FURTHER AGREED THAT
 IT IS NOT THE BEST PLAN THAT COULD BE DESIGNED FOR THIS
 AREA. HOWEVER, THE POST AND RSS CONCUR THAT IT IS THE
 BEST PLAN POSSIBLE GIVEN THE PRESENT SITUATION IN
 VIENTIANE. BECAUSE THIS SITUATION AT POST IS TO A LARGE
 EXTENT STILL FLUID, THE PLAN WAS DEVISED TO PERMIT QUICK
 INSTALLATION WITH THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF RENOVATION TO THE
 CHANCERY. THE WALLS ARE MASONRY AND FOUR-INCH THICK; EXTENSIVE
 MODIFICATION WOULD BE COSTLY, AND IT WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE
 TIME TO ACCUMULATE SUFFICIENT SUPPLIES OF CONCRETE AND CINDER
 BLOCK. BOTH OF THESE ITEMS ARE IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY IN
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VIENTIANE AND NORTHERN THAILAND. WHILE IT WOULD BE MOST

DESIRABLE TO CO-LOCATE THE MSG AND RECEPTIONIST, THERE SIMPLY IS NO ROOM IN THE LOBBY/RECEPTION AREA TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. WHILE THE DRAWINGS SUBMITTED DO ILLUSTRATE SCALE, THEY DO NOT REFLECT THE VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF SPACE INVOLVED.

- 3. THE PURPOSE OF THE WINDOW AT SQUARE FOUR IS TO PERMIT TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE CONDUCT OF CONSULAR WALK-IN BUSINESS THROUGH A BARRIER. IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT THIS WINDOW BE BALLISTIC-RESISTANT; HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE. THE FIGURE AT SQUARE TWO SHOULD REFLECT A DOOR, NOT A WINDOW, AND WOULD SERVE AS THE NORMAL ACCESS DOOR TO THE CONSULAR OFFICER. FIGURE THREE IS AN EXISTING DOOR THAT WOULD SERVE AS AN EXIT DOOR FOR THE CONSULAR OFFICER TO ENTER THE MAIN CHANCERY AREAS.
- 4. THE MAIN CHANCERY ENTRANCE DOORS ARE TWO SETS OF DOUBLE DOORS. THE OUTER SET ARE OF WOOD, GLAS AND MYLAR CONSTRUCTION AND OPEN OUTWARD. THE INNER SET ARE OF STEEL WITH SAND-FILL CONSTRUCT AND ARE NORMALLY OPENED INWARD. GIVEN THE STATE OF THE ART, ELECTRIC LOCKING DEVICES ARE NOT BELIEVED TO BE FEASIBLE IN THIS APPLICATION. HOWEVER, THIS SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE TSO DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO POST
- 5. THE ANNEX C BARRIER'S PRIMARY MISSION WILL BE TO PREVENT UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THE MAIN ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS AND USIS. THE POST WILL BE MANNED BY LOCAL GUARD PERSONNEL, NOT MSG'S. ONCE A VISITOR IS DETERMINED TO HAVE LEGITIMATE BUSINESS WITH THESE SECTIONS HE WILL BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED UNESCORTED. IT IS PLANNED THAT THIS POST WILL BE UNDER OBSERVATION BY THE MSG OVER ONE OF THE FOUR CCTV CAMERAS CURRENTLY REQUESTED. IT IS BELIEVED THE SPACE SHOWN WILL BE ADEQUATE FOR THIS FUNCTION. ALL GROUND-FLOOR DOORS OF THE ANNEX ARE LOCKED. IN ADDITION THE TWO HALLWAY DOORS AT ONE END ARE CURRENTLY LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE. BECAUSE THESE DOORS ALSO MUST BE OPENABLE FROM THE INSIDE FOR FIRE EXITS, POST IS AT PRESENT ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE A VENDER WHO CAN PROVIDE THREE PANIC BARS WITH AN ALARM ATTACHEMENT FOR THIS PURPOSE.
- 6. POST BELIEVES ESTIMATE SUBMITTED REFTEL (A) TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCURATE AND, GIVEN PRESENT SITUATION, COSTS TO BE WITHIN ESTIMATE SUBMITTED. TEARE

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